

THE GREAT IRON SHIP

by
James Dugan



For the first time, the full and incredible saga of the GREAT EASTERN—the mighty vessel built over a century ago that dwarfs all but the largest of today's ocean liners. The most spectacular phenomenon of her century, she laid the Atlantic Cable, but sailed under a curse that killed or ruined hundreds of men. She was a pleasure palace and a floating graveyard; a laughing stock and a tragic heroine.

The Great Iron Ship

Ernle Bradford



The Great Iron Ship:

The Great Iron Ship James Dugan,1953 Parts of this book appeared originally in The New Yorker in a different version

The Great Iron Ship James Dugan,2018-12-05 IF EVER there was a subject fit for the hand of the biographer the story of the Great Eastern is surely it James Dugan has made the entertaining most of a monstrous but true episode of the high Victorian days the age of iron and the mechanical engineer He has written a failure story far more amusing than most success stories could be and out of 692 feet and 12 000 tons of iron he has made a character almost human in its foibles and its superb talent for getting into trouble Before the Great Eastern had made her first trip to New York she had eaten up 5 000 000 the first of the fortunes she regularly swallowed on every voyage She had hardly steamed a few dozen miles when the forward funnel blew out She passed through the hands of three groups of shareholders before she ever carried a paying passenger Everything that could possibly happen to a ship happened to the Great Eastern Tanks of fish oil deluged her engine deck Two horses died of a bad cold because she passed too close to an iceberg On her fourth voyage she got stuck in Flushing Bay at the western end of Long Island Sound with a gash in her bottom that would have comfortably accommodated an ordinary sized ship Storm mechanical failure inefficient captains and crew the Great Eastern had everything She almost cut New York in two when she first docked Into her story enter such figures as Cyrus Field who made use of the Great Eastern to lay the Atlantic cable Louis Napoleon he wrested the leviathan just in time from the hands of the Sultan of Turkey who wanted to use her to house his harem Jules Verne Du Chaillu Indian nabobs the war correspondent Scott Russell and dozens of other figures of a bygone age The whole story is told by Mr Dugan with an unfailing appreciation of the high low and medium comedy involved in the Great Eastern s crazy career and with a sharp eye for the Victorian background and personalities The Greatest Iron Ship George S. Emmerson,1980 **The Great Iron Ship** James Dugan,1953 **The**

great iron ship James Dugan,1955 The Great Ship Ernle Bradford,2014-04-01 The evolution of the battleship through centuries of war told by a nautical expert and author of The Mighty Hood During its reign from the sixteenth century to the mid twentieth the battleship was the most powerful weapon of war known to man Strategically it determined a war s outcome Tactically it dominated every sea battle But at the Battle of Taranto in 1940 and the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 carrier borne aircraft made a decisive display of superiority over the once mighty battleship Thus World War II heralded the end of the era of The Great Ship In The Great Ship noted naval historian Ernle Bradford traces the evolution of battleships through centuries of conflict and innovation Selecting one or two ships from each period Bradford illustrates their use in action and the significant roles they played in the course of history **Engines of Empire** Douglas R. Burgess Jr.,2016-05-04 In 1859 the S S Great Eastern departed from England on her maiden voyage She was a remarkable wonder of the nineteenth century an iron city longer than Trafalgar Square taller than Big Ben s tower heavier than Westminster Cathedral Her paddles were the size of Ferris wheels her decks could hold four thousand passengers bound for America or

ten thousand troops bound for the Raj Yet she ended her days as a floating carnival before being unceremoniously dismantled in 1889 Steamships like the Great Eastern occupied a singular place in the Victorian mind Crossing oceans ferrying tourists and troops alike they became emblems of nationalism modernity and humankind's triumph over the cruel elements Throughout the nineteenth century the spectacle of a ship's launch was one of the most recognizable symbols of British social and technological progress Yet this celebration of the power of the empire masked overconfidence and an almost religious veneration of technology Equating steam with civilization had catastrophic consequences for subjugated peoples around the world Engines of Empire tells the story of the complex relationship between Victorians and their wondrous steamships following famous travelers like Mark Twain Charles Dickens and Jules Verne as well as ordinary spectators tourists and imperial administrators as they crossed oceans bound for the colonies Rich with anecdotes and wry humor it is a fascinating glimpse into a world where an empire felt powerful and anything seemed possible if there was an engine behind it

Harper's New Monthly Magazine, 1878 **Annual Report of the Commissioner of Navigation to the Secretary of Commerce** United States. Dept. of Commerce. Bureau of Navigation, 1888 *The Industrial & Commercial Revolutions in Great Britain During the Nineteenth Century* L.C.A Knowles, 2013-11-05 First Published in 2005 In this book the author seeks to bring out the causes which led to the coming of machinery and which made Great Britain the workshop of the world for a large part of the nineteenth century Knowles especially stresses the world position of the United Kingdom during the past century owing to the developments of mechanical transport which were the inevitable outcome of the mass production by machines This title also aims to account for the great change in public opinion after 1870 which led to the growth of State control not merely in industry but in commerce agriculture transport and imperial relations

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